

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 05522 022315Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----022318Z 044957 /70

P 022217Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7865

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 5522

EXDIS

)8.- 0)3- 3 0- 59 - 5. SEC. TODMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, VE, BR, PA, AR, BL, PE, UY, EC, CI, CO

SUBJECT: MEETING OF SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES

REF: CARACAS 5163

1. FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD ME TODAY THAT SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES WERE INDEED HAVING A MEETING BUT THAT IT WAS SHIFTED FROM CHIEFS OF STATE TO FOREIGN MINISTERS. HE SAID MEETING IS SCHEDULED IN ASUNCION FOR APPROXIMATELY JUNE 9 (BUT HE WAS NOT CERTAIN OF DATE). HE SAID THAT PERU AND BOLIVIA HAD DECLINED TO GO AND THAT "VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA OF COURSE WOULD NOT GO". I ASKED IF AN INVITATION HAD ACTUALLY BEEN EXTENDED TO THE GOV.
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PAGE 02 CARACA 05522 022315Z

HE REPLIED NOT EXACTLY BUT THEY HAD AN "INFORMAL SOUNDING" (WHATEVER THAT MEANS).

2. FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT THEY HAVE AN ACTUAL AGENDA WORKED OUT WHICH INCLUDES SUCH ITEMS AS "THE PRACTICALITY OF DEMOCRACY IN LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES", AND "THE TRANSISTORY NATURE OF MILITARY REGIMES." IT IS, HE SAID, A FUNNY KIND OF AGENDA BUT OSTENSIBLY

SHAPED AROUND THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION. WHAT IT IS HOWEVER, HE SAID, IS AN EFFORT TO ORGANIZE A FRONT ("DEFENDERSE") IN THE FACE OF US HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY. WHAT THEY ARE DOING IS CASTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION IN TERMS OF INTERVENTION AND NON-INTERVENTION.

3. THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT THIS WOULD PORTEND FOR THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S CONSIDERATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS TOPIC. HE SAID VENEZUELA WOULD BE FORTHRIGHT AND WOULD STAND SQUARELY BEHIND THE USE ON THIS ISSUE. HE ASKED WHETHER I KNEW WHAT CONCRETE FORM US PROPOSALS, OR OTHER COUNTRIES' SUGGESTIONS, WOULD TAKE. I SAID I DID NOT AT THE MOMENT BUT WOULD RELAY TO HIM ANY INFORMATION RECEIVED.
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Message Attributes

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